

*HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT*  
*LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION*



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My ref: NG/DCA/TP

Your ref:

13 December 2007

Rt Hon Rosie Winterton MP  
Minister of State  
Department for Transport  
Great Minster House  
76 Marsham Street  
LONDON SW1P 4DR

Dear Minister

**Concessionary Bus Travel from April 2008**

This Association represents all 15 local authorities in the Hampshire and Isle of Wight sub-region, together with the Police, Fire and National Park authorities plus the parish and town councils' associations.

I write on behalf of the Association to support representations made by the Local Government Association (see the LGA's briefing dated 12 December attached).

My Association met on 30 November to consider the financial risks posed by the Concessionary Fares Scheme to local authorities. We particularly want to emphasise the financial problems created by the the funding mechanism which - as the Local Government Association says - fails to reflect the actual costs to individual authorities.

As an Association we have provided examples to the Local Government Association to demonstrate the problems. Many such examples have already been supplied to your Department. My Association asked its member authorities to write to you direct once they have seen the exact impact of the proposed special grant funding.

We shall continue to monitor the costs of the scheme against budgets and grant.

Cont'd ...

Meanwhile we urge you to review the funding so as to ensure that the extra costs of the new scheme from April 2008 are fully refunded to each authority.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Peter Moyle

CHAIRMAN, HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT LGA  
LEADER, RUSHMOOR BOROUGH COUNCIL